SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 812 By Rochelle

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Rebecca Lynch Ferrar upon the occasion of her departure from the Capitol Hill Press Corps.

WHEREAS, Rebecca Lynch Ferrar was born on August 30, 1945, only weeks after the atomic bomb was dropped on Japan; and

WHEREAS, the enlightened leaders of *The Knoxville News-Sentinel* have determined they need Rebecca back in the Knoxville office to brighten their drab existence; and

WHEREAS, Rebecca was a classic flower-child of the '60s who, among other exploits, attended Woodstock, was a professional go-go dancer, and lived in Greenwich Village in Manhattan; and

WHEREAS, Rebecca graduated from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, supporting herself and her young son, and landed her first newspaper job at *The Mountain Press* in Sevierville; and

SJR0812

WHEREAS, after more than a decade covering Capitol Hill, Rebecca has been known by various aliases, including, but not limited to, Angel, Cupcake, Buttercup, Beckity-Bear, and Lucifer; and

WHEREAS, Rebecca's disarming charm, sweetness, and delicacy have been known to reduce state public information officers to tears and to strike terror into the hearts of state commissioners; and

WHEREAS, Rebecca is a devoted and loving mother of one grown son, Chris Ferrar, and still mourns the loss of her late, beloved feline companion, Felix; and

WHEREAS, Rebecca has requested that she be sent taped copies of all future meetings of the Senate Judiciary Committee in perpetuity, lest she miss the stirring debate and Aristotelian logic; and

WHEREAS, it is unclear whether *The Knoxville News-Sentinel* will ever cover another legislative committee meeting again; and

WHEREAS, she is fondly known among the Capitol Hill Press Corps as the Mother of the Drooler Dance, killer Bahama-Mama Rum Punch, and for her incessant cheering for her mighty Vols; and

WHEREAS, Rebecca has survived all manner of dangerous encounters with recliners, curbs, furniture, sidewalks, and other obstacles, emerging triumphant and unbowed; and

WHEREAS, a rugged outdoorsperson, Rebecca has been known to fish (as long as she doesn't have to bait her own hook) and to endure quarter-mile hikes; and

WHEREAS, during one such rugged outdoor experience, Rebecca bravely saved fellow reporter, Andy Sher, and lobbyist, Brian McGuire, from spiders the size of dinner plates when she stood up in their canoe and capsized it, while never losing her grip on her beer; and

WHEREAS, a longtime denizen of Nashville's prestigious Gold Rush Gang, Rebecca is known as the only person alive who actually got nicer when she quit smoking; and

- 2 - 01492784

WHEREAS, Rebecca will finally get to use her "Big Orange" season tickets for every home game, increasing the noise level inside Neyland Stadium by another 30 percent and further assuring the success of her beloved Volunteers; and

WHEREAS, the Capitol Hill Press Corps will miss its beloved sister, her wit, her laughter, her companionship, her helpfulness, and her generosity of spirit; and

WHEREAS, the members of the General Assembly, administration, and lobbying corps will miss Rebecca's cut-to-the-chase questions, her expertise, and her honest, insightful reporting; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor and recognize the estimable Rebecca Lynch Ferrar of *The Knoxville News-Sentinel* upon the occasion of her departure from the Capitol Hill Press Corps, reflecting fondly upon her tremendous character, wonderful wit, and stalwart commitment to assuring that the citizens of Tennessee were able to stay fully informed of legislative proceedings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express to her our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

- 3 - 01492784